

Four days after the signing, the Alamo fell with her commander Lt. Colonel William Barrett Travis, Tennessee Congressman David Crockett, and approximately 200 other Texan and Tejanos defenders.

All these men were killed in action, a heroic sacrifice for Texan freedom. If this tragedy were not enough, weeks later Santa Anna's army massacred over 300 unarmed Texans at Goliad on March 27.

In a dramatic turnaround, Texans and Tejanos achieved their independence several weeks later on April 21, 1836. Roughly 900 Texans and Tejanos of the Texan army overpowered a much larger Mexican army in a surprise attack at the Battle of San Jacinto.

That battle is memorialized along the San Jacinto River with the San Jacinto Monument in Baytown, Texas in my district. The monument is larger than the Washington Monument here in D.C.

Today is an important day for Texas identity, and patriotic Texans are observing this occasion with great pride at the monument in Baytown today. If it were not for our voting schedule here in Congress, I would be at home with them for this event.

We give thanks to the many Texans from all backgrounds who sacrificed for the freedom we now enjoy. God bless Texas and God bless America.

CONGRESS MUST REMAIN CONCERNED WITH THE POST-WAR LIVES AND TRAUMAS OF AMERICA'S SOLDIERS RETURNING FROM IRAQ

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 2, 2006*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to bring to the attention of my colleagues the personal and really tragic story of one soldier's struggle to cope after returning from the war in Iraq. The San Francisco Chronicle recently reported on the life of Blake Miller, whom some Americans came to know through the media as the "Marlboro Man" of Iraq for his efforts in the battle of Fallujah, one of the most intense battles of the Iraq War since the invasion itself.

As the war continues to rage on and the country continues to debate how to bring it to an end, it is important to stop and look at the consequences of the war on our soldiers. America's soldiers have done everything asked of them. They and their families have endured great hardship, and many, too many in my opinion, have paid the ultimate sacrifice in this war.

I believe that we must not neglect the full experience of the soldiers and their families from this war, the trauma and stress that have severe consequences on their post-war lives. Blake Miller, a.k.a. the Marlboro Man, now suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder from his experiences in Iraq, and specifically, his involvement in the siege on Fallujah. He is really struggling, according to this news account that I am enclosing for all of my colleagues to read. As the article describes, he and those who fought with him, will forever be tormented by their experiences in Iraq.

Sadly, but not unexpectedly, Blake Miller and his family are not alone. According to an

article in the Washington Post on March 1, 2006, soldiers returning from Iraq consistently reported more psychic distress than those returning from other conflicts. More than one in three soldiers and Marines who served in Iraq have sought help for mental health problems, according to Army experts.

Mr. Speaker, the President and Congress have chosen to send America's soldiers into battle in Iraq. That was not a decision that I supported because I believed then, as I do now, that the evidence of a real threat to America did not exist. But whether one supported this decision or not, every member of Congress and the President have an obligation to be concerned with the well-being of our troops both in battle and afterward. I hope that Blake Miller's story will help convey to this Congress the human suffering that this war is likely to cause for many years to come and help us to think long and hard about the consequences of the decisions we make in Congress—before we make them.

We honor Blake Miller's sacrifice and service to our country by making sure he and his family have every resource available to help them recover from this trauma and to regain a sense of normalcy in their lives and that they are not denied any needed service because of a lack of funding from this Congress or this President for medical care for veterans.

REMEMBERING RICHARD "DICK" QUATTRIN

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 2, 2006*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take this time to remember one of Northwest Indiana's most distinguished citizens, Richard "Dick" Quattrin, of Whiting, Indiana. On Sunday, February 26, 2006, Dick passed away while in Washington, D.C. As he so often did, Dick made the trip to Washington to take part in a national meeting of the American Legion. Dick will be laid to rest on Saturday, February 4, 2006, at Saint Joseph Cemetery in Hammond, Indiana.

Dick Quattrin was born on August 18, 1932, to Angelo and Laura Quattrin. He was born and raised in the Pullman-Roseland neighborhoods of Chicago before relocating to Whiting, Indiana, which he called home for over fifty years. These fifty years were spent with his beloved wife, Dorothy, who survives him. Dick is also survived by his five daughters, Lydia (Greg) Beer, Karen (Ed) Erminger, Ruth (Wayne) Rodda, Marsha (John) Jerome, and Sharon Quattrin. Dick is also survived by his brothers Norman (Laurie) Quattrin and Ron (Sandy) Quattrin, his sister-in-law Rose (Bill) Tuskan, and his loving grandchildren, whom he truly cherished: Andrew, Jason, Jennifer, Daniel, Jeffrey, Megan, Laura, Allison, Emily, and Claire.

Dick's life of service to his community goes back to his days in the United States Army, where he obtained the rank of Sergeant. Dick felt tremendous pride for his country, and he was willing to endanger his own life to protect the lives of his fellow Americans, as evidenced by his service during the Korean Conflict. His courage and heroism will always be remembered, and his sacrifice will forever live in the

hearts and minds of those for whom he battled. Throughout his professional career, Dick continued to serve the community as a member of the fire department for the City of Hammond, Indiana.

Since his discharge from the United States Army, Dick has become most well known in the community for his commitment to veterans and his involvement with the American Legion and other veterans' organizations. Dick's dedication to the American Legion is evident in the many prestigious positions he held. Dick was a past commander of American Legion Post #80 in Whiting, where he remained a constant fixture until his passing. Dick was even named to the revered post of Commander of the Department of Indiana American Legion from 1997–1998. His efforts in this position allowed him to spread his compassion and his unwavering concern for veterans far beyond the borders of Northwest Indiana. Along the way, I am sure Dick crossed paths with many more veterans whose lives were touched, knowing that such a passionate individual was fighting for them. In addition to his service to the American Legion, Dick was also an active member of the 40/8, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Walter Kleiber Post 2724, the Knights of Columbus Council 1696, and the B.P.O.E. Whiting Lodge 68.

While Dick has dedicated considerable time and energy to veterans' rights, he has always made an extra effort to give back to the community. Dick, well known in Northwest Indiana for his talents as a singer, was a member of his church choir and the "Knight Sounds" of the Whiting Knights of Columbus. In addition, Dick was highly respected in the community in the area of athletics, having coached the Whiting Post #80 baseball team for the past 40 years. An accomplished athlete in his own right, Dick played professional baseball as a member of the Saint Louis Browns affiliated minor league ball club.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Mr. Richard "Dick" Quattrin for his outstanding devotion to Indiana's First Congressional District. His unselfish and lifelong dedication to veterans and the Northwest Indiana community is worthy of the highest commendation. Dick's selflessness was an inspiration to us all, and I am proud to have represented him in Congress.

RECOGNIZING 87TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION OF KOREAN PENINSULA

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 2, 2006*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 87th anniversary of the March 1st Movement for the liberation of the Korean peninsula from Japanese oppression. This was the day that Korea regained its independence and since then it has continued to become a major economic and cultural force on the world stage.

There is a flourishing and growing relationship between the United States and Korea. Korea is a major economic partner and our 7th largest trading partner. Whether in education, science, business, or the arts, Korea